

Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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S E C R E T MOSCOW 16875

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS 3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJ: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS

PNE MESSAGE NUMBER FORTY-NINE

REF: STATE PNE MESSAGE 17, SUBJECT: TTBT/PNE NEGOTIATIONS.

1. IN REPLY TO QUESTIONS IN PARA TWO OF REFERENCED MESSAGE,
OUR PNE MESSAGE FORTY-FOUR IS RETRANSMITTED BELOW:

S E C R E T MOSCOW 16779

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 XGDS-3

TAGS: PARM, US, UR

SUBJ: MTTBT PNE NEGOTIATIONS - SUMMARY OF NOV 4 PLENARY

PNE MESSAGE NUMBER FORTY-FOUR

1. THE FOURTEENTH PLENARY BEGAN WITH STATEMENT BY
MOROKHOV THAT PNES WERE ABSOLUTELY NECESSARY FOR
DEVELOPMENT OF RESOURCES OF NORTH AND NORTHEASTERN
PARTS OF THE SOVIET UNION. HE AND RODIONOV
THEN DISCUSSED POSSIBLE FUTURE REQUIREMENTS FOR CON-
TAINED PNES GREATER THAN 150 KT. RODIONOV STATED
THAT THE FUTURE DEVELOPMENT OF TECHNOLOGY WOULD
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REQUIRE CONTAINED PNES OF YIELDS GREATER THAN 150 KT

FOR USE IN MINING, GEOTHERMAL PROJECTS, INCLUDING INCREASING THE PERIOD OF NAVIGABILITY OF RIVERS BY INCREASING TEMPERATURE, CREATING DAMS WITH ARTIFICALLY INDUCED ROCK SLIDES. SOME APPLICATIONS WOULD REQUIRE YIELDS OF SEVERAL MEGATONS.

2. MOROKHOV THEN REPLIED TO US PROPOSAL ON 100 KT LIMIT BY STATING THAT THE THRESHOLD WAS UNACCEPTABLE FOR MANY REASONS. HE THEN REITERATED THAT SOVIET SIDE COULD NOT ACCEPT ANY RESTRICTION OF THE POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF PNES AND STATED HIS BELIEF THAT THE US WOULD NOT BE WISE TO OVERLOOK THE BENEFITS OF TECHNIQUES SUCH AS OIL EXTRACTION FROM OIL SHALE. HE AGREED THAT PNES SHOULD NOT CONTRIBUTE TO IMPROVING OR DEVELOPING WEAPONS, AND INTRODUCED SAFRONOV TO DESCRIBE VERIFICATION PROCEDURES WHICH COULD ASSURE THIS.

3. SAFRONOV DESCRIBED AN APPROACH WHICH HE SAID WOULD PROVIDE VERIFICATION OF PEN OVER THE YIELD RANGE FROM SEVERAL KT TO 1 MT. HE INDICATED THAT ADDITIONAL DATA COULD BE PROVIDED TO AID VERIFICATION IN CASES WHERE THERE WAS A POSSIBILITY THAT THE VERIFYING SIDE WOULD CONCLUDE THE YIELD EXCEEDED THE THRESHOLD SET FOR WEAPONS TESTS, BUT EMPHASIZED THAT THE GREATEST NUMBER OF PROJECTS WOULD BE OF LOW ENOUGH YIELD (DESCRIBED AS BELOW 50-70 KT) THAT NATIONAL SEISMIC SYSTEMS ALONE WOULD SUFFICE FOR VERIFICATION. FOR PNES ABOVE THIS LEVEL BUT BELOW THE THRESHOLD MINIMUM INFORMATION ON TIME, PLACE, YIELD, AND PURPOSE WOULD BE PROVIDED. FOR PNES ABOVE THE THRESHOLD, MORE DETAILED INFORMATION MIGHT BE PROVIDED IN ORDER THAT THE PEACEFUL PURPOSE COULD BE CONFIRMED. HE EMPHASIZED THAT THE APPLICATIONS REQUIRING HIGH YIELD (OVERBURDEN REMOVAL) COULD BE CONFIRMED EASILY BY NATIONAL TECHNICAL MEANS. HE SUMMARIZED HIS PRINCIPLES OF VERIFICATION (STATED AFTER MEETING TO APPLY TO BOTH CONTAINED AND EXCAVATION SHOTS) AS FOLLOWS:

(1) VERIFICATION WOULD BE CARRIED OUT BY NATIONAL
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TECHNICAL SYSTEMS OVER ENTIRE RANGE OF YIELDS;

(2) PEACEFUL PURPOSE CAN BE CONFIRMED BY:

(A) ESTABLISHING THAT THE YIELD WAS BELOW
THE THRESHOLD;

(B) CONFIRMING THAT RESULTS OF PNE CONFORM
TO DESCRIBED PARAMETERS AND PURPOSE;

(3) NEED FOR PROVIDING INFORMATION AND THE AMOUNT TO BE PROVIDED FOR VERIFICATION CAN BE DETERMINED BY THE SIDE CARRYING OUT THE PNE.

(4) THESE VERIFICATION PRINCIPLES ARE SIMILAR TO THOSE UNDERLYING THE TTBT, AND THEREFORE THERE IS NO NEED FOR ANY OBSERVERS.

4. STOESSEL'S STATEMENT TRANSMITTED SEPTEL.

5. MORKHOV EMPHASIZED IMPORTANCE OF SAFRONOV'S PRESENTATION AND REQUESTED COMMENTS, SINCE AS HE DESCRIBED IT "WE ARE TALKING LIKE DEAF PEOPLE" AND NOT CRITICIZING EACH OTHER'S PRESENTATIONS.

6. BUCHHEIM MADE COMMENTS ON THREE POINTS. HE PREFACED BY SAYING THEY WERE HIS PERSONALLY AND HE WAS ACCEPTING MOROKHOV'S REQUEST FOR FRANKNESS. FIRST, HE SAID THAT THE PROSPECT OF EXPERIMENTAL WORK IN PNES (AS DESCRIBED BY RODIONOV) WAS ONE OF THE REASONS FOR DOUBTS ABOUT THE SOVIET CONTENTION THAT THE NEED FOR CLOSE TOLERANCE ON PNE YILED WOULD SUFFICE FOR VERIFICATION. SECOND, HE REITERATED STOESSEL'S PREVIOUS POINT THAT VERIFICATION OF THE PURPOSE OF PNE WAS A PARTICULARLY IMPORTANT PROBLEM WHICH DID NOT ARISE IN THE TTBT BECAUSE THE PURPOSE OF TESTS AT WEAPONS SITES IS KNOWN; IT IS WEAPON TESTING. THIRD, POSESSION OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WHAT INFORMATION NEEDS TO BE PROVIDED TO VERIFY PURPOSE IS EQUIVLAENT TO POSSESSION OF KNOWLEDGE ABOUT WHAT INFORMATION WOULD NEED TO BE WITHHELD TO CONCEAL THE PURPOSE OF THE EXPLOSION.

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4. MOROKHOV SAID HE APPRECIATED THE FRANKNESS OF BUCHHEIM'S COMMENTS AND WOULD TRY TO SATISFY THESE CONCERNS AT FUTURE MEEGINGS.

8. THE MEETING CONCLUDED WITH A SHOWING OF THE RIO BLANCO FILM AND THE NEXT MEETING WAS SCHEDULED FOR 10:30, 5 NOVEMBER. MOROKHOV SUGGESTED THAT THE RIO BLANCO FILM BE EXCHANGE FOR ONE (BUT ONLY ONE) OF THE TWO NEW FILMS SHOWN BY THE SOVIETS. WE PLAN TO ACCEPT THIS OFFER PENDING CONFIRMATION (ASAP) THAT THE FILM SENT TO US IS NOT THE ONLY PRINT. DELEGATION VIEW IS THAT, IF POSSIBLE, WE SHOULD OBTAIN FILM OF KAMA--PECHORA CANAL EXPERIMENT.

9. IN ONE-ON-ONE, MOROKHOV AND STOESSEL AGREED THAT

MEETING ON WEDNESDAY WOULD BE LAST SESSION PRIOR TO
RECESS AND THAT EACH SIDE SHOULD PRESENT A SUMMARY
OF ITS POSITION TO DATE AND IDENTIFY ISSUES FOR
STUDY DURING RECESS. ALSO, TIMERBAEV ASKED
MARCUM HOW LONG RECESS WOULD LAST. MARCUM REPLIED
THAT THERE WAS MUCH WORK TO BE DONE, THAT WE
PROBABLY COULD NOT SET A DATE AT THIS TIME AND WOULD
COMMUNICATE LATER REGARDING DATE FOR RESUMPTION OF
TALKS.
STOESSEL

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